

# *WebQuests*



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# *Goals*

You will have an overview of an instructional approach called WebQuest and the rationale that supports use of the approach in differentiated instruction.

You will have access to links for professional reading and tools to support your development of a WebQuest.

# *WebQuest Overview*

- Research and Information Fluency
  - ◆ Focus on information use rather than looking for information on the Web.
  - ◆ Supports analysis, synthesis and evaluation.
- Communication and Collaboration
  - ◆ Inquiry-oriented, constructivist activities allowing students to work individually or together to learn about a subject or tackle a problem.
- Differentiation by readiness, interest and ability.
- Not just Web 1.0 – consider incorporating Web 2.0 tools.

# *Elements of a WebQuest*

- **Introduction**

- ◆ A short paragraph designed to introduce the lesson to the students. Set the stage and communicate the essential question here.

- **Task**

- ◆ Describe clearly what the end result will be.

- **Process**

- ◆ List the steps the learners will use and provide guidance as to how to organize the information gathered.

# *Elements of a WebQuest*

- **Evaluation**

- ◆ Describe how the learners performance will be evaluated.

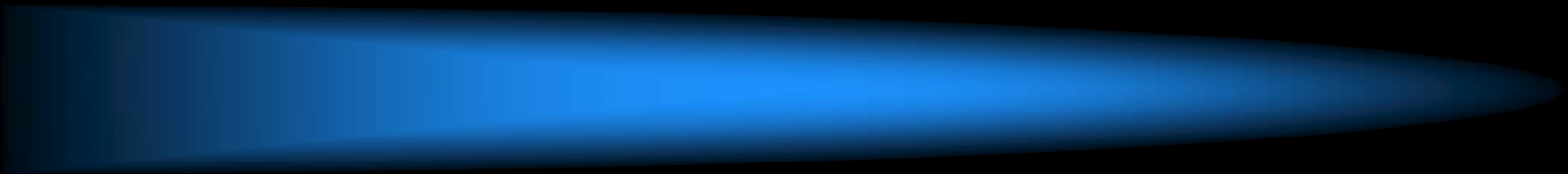
- **Conclusion**

- ◆ Summarize what the learners will have accomplished or learned by completing the activity. Rhetorical questions or additional links for extended learning can be included.

- **Teacher Page**

- ◆ Page designed to provide background information to other teachers who may use the WebQuest.

*Video: WebQuest Components*



# *Design a WebQuest*

- Brainstorm WebQuest topics.
  - ◆ It should meet curriculum standards.
  - ◆ It should make good use of the Web.  
Remember to include primary sources where applicable.
  - ◆ It should include skills at the top of Bloom's Taxonomy.  
(<http://www.cbv.ns.ca/sstudies/links/learn/1414.html>)

# *Design a WebQuest*

- Review existing WebQuests. Example sites:

- ◆ <http://webquest.org/search/>
- ◆ <http://teacherweb.com/TWQuest.htm>
- ◆ <http://www.kn.pacbell.com/wired/fil/>
- ◆ <http://instantprojects.org>
- ◆ [http://www.emints.org/webquest/index.shtml\\*](http://www.emints.org/webquest/index.shtml*)

- Read all copyright information!



# *Design a WebQuest*

- Go to:  
<http://webquest.sdsu.edu/LessonTemplate.html>
- Provide credit to this site for the use of the template.

# *Design a WebQuest*

- Select and download to your computer a template of your choice.
- Unzip the files.
- Open the individual files with a web page editor (Front Page, Dreamweaver, Word, etc.)
- Add content and save as an Web Page with a new name to preserve the template.

# *Design a WebQuest*

- Begin to create/adapt your WebQuest.
  - ◆ What do I want my students to know, be able to do and understand?
  - ◆ How can I differentiate the task for the learners?
- Write the Task portion in the student template and the Standards and Learners in the teacher template.
- Create a rubric for evaluating student work.
  - ◆ <http://webquest.sdsu.edu/rubrics/rubrics.html>
    - Considerations for how to evaluate the projects.
  - ◆ <http://webquest.sdsu.edu/rubrics/weblessons.htm>
    - Provides examples of rubrics.
  - ◆ <http://rubistar.4teachers.org/index.php>
    - Create your own rubric.

# *Design a WebQuest*

- Design the process.
  - ◆ <http://webquest.sdsu.edu/processguides/>
    - Contains information about the process students should use to interact with the data and with others.
  - ◆ Locate the resources using sources available on the Internet and within your school district.
    - Include topic-specific images, encyclopedia articles, video segments and other Internet resources where applicable and within copyright guidelines.
    - [Readability information](#)

# *Design a WebQuest*

- Complete the Introduction, Conclusion and Credits.
  - ◆ <http://webquest.sdsu.edu/finepoints/>
    - Contains information about formatting and publishing a web page.
- Peer evaluate your WebQuest.
  - ◆ See [Evaluation](#) in the Resource List at the end.

# *Instructional Strategies*

- Individual or group activity in the classroom or lab with multiple computers.
- Single or multi-disciplinary activity.
- Single computer use for whole class discussion.
- Learning stations for students.
- With limited Internet access, archive the required web pages on the computer hard drive or file sharing folder.
- With limited access to teacher web pages, save the WebQuest to a shared folder on the network drive.

# *WebQuest Resource List*

- San Diego State University

- ◆ <http://webquest.org>

- This is the original Webquest site. It contains many resources and forums.

- WebQuest Research

- ◆ <http://webquest.org/index-research.php>  
<http://www.glencoe.com/ps/computered/article.php4?articleId=418&modId=3>

- WebQuest Taskonomy

- ◆ <http://webquest.sdsu.edu/taskonomy.html>

- You'll find 12 taxonomies for the most common WebQuest tasks. Many of the links to Webquests are not found; however, the taskonomy is valuable.

- ◆ <http://webquest.sdsu.edu/designpatterns/all.htm>

- Design templates for several taskonomies.

# *WebQuest Resource List*

- A WebQuest about WebQuests

- ◆ <http://webquest.sdsu.edu/materials.htm>

- In depth information about WebQuests from various points of view.

- Thirteen Ed Online. *Concept to Classroom: What is a WebQuest?*

- <http://www.thirteen.org/edonline/concept2class/webquests/index.html>



# *WebQuest Resource List*

## ● Evaluation

- ◆ <http://webquest.sdsu.edu/processchecker.html>
- ◆ <http://webquest.sdsu.edu/webquestrubric.html>
- ◆ <http://webquest.sdsu.edu/rubrics/rubrics.html>
  - Evaluation criteria to support WebQuest development.

## ● Readability Test

- ◆ <http://juicystudio.com/services/readability.php#readingresults>
  - Paste a web page URL to determine the readability level of a website using several reading level algorithms.

# *WebQuest Resource List*

- WebQuest Generator

- ◆ <http://teacherweb.com/TWQuest.htm>

- Teacherweb and Instant Projects contain a searchable databases of WebQuests.

- Instant Projects

- ◆ <http://instantprojects.org>

- They also provides hosting of WebQuests on a subscription basis. Check with your school district regarding district policy on use of subscription services.

# Credits

Association for supervision and Curriculum Development. *Instructional Strategies for the Differentiated Classroom: Part 2*. Alexandria, VA: ASCD, 2004.

Dodge, Bernie. *Webquest.org*. <http://webquest.org>.

----- *WebQuest Design Process*.

<http://webquest.sdsu.edu/designsteps/index.html>

Network for Instructional TV. *Webquest 101 – Putting Discovering Into Curriculum*.

<http://www.teachersfirst.com/summer/webquest/quest-a.shtml>

Pitler, Howard, et al. *Using Technology with Classroom Instruction that Works*. Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, 2007.

Saskatoon Public Schools. *Instructional Strategies Online*. <http://olc.spsd.sk.ca/DE/PD/instr/strats/webquest/>.